

Remarks

Election

As currently presented, all pending claims are now drawn to the elected invention and thus in compliance with the restriction requirement.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants have cancelled claims 18-19, 21-23, and 50-52, reserving the right to prosecute the cancelled subject matter, and the non-elected subject matter, in one or more follow-on applications. In addition, further to the Examiner's suggestion in the telephone conversation of February 27, 2007, Applicants have amended claim 55 to recite "An isolated MAIAP nucleic acid" for reasons of clarity, cancelled claims 21 and 22-23, which depended on claims 18, now cancelled, and brought them back as new claims 86-88, depending from claim 56.

Rejections

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112, para. 1 –Enablement

Claim 50-52 are now cancelled. Therefore, the outstanding rejections of claims 50-52 are moot.

Applicants do not believe that any other rejections remain with respect to the pending claims. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and issuance of a notice of allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is required; however, in the event that the need for an extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 has been overlooked, Applicants hereby submit this conditional petition for an additional extension of time. The applicant believes that no fees to cover the one-month extension are due at this time; however if any fees are due for the timely consideration of this application, please charge deposit account number 19-4972. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if any outstanding issues remain, so that these matters may be resolved expeditiously.

Application No. 09/762,577
Filed: August 6, 1999
Attorney Docket: 2486/109

Respectfully submitted,

/Barbara J. Carter/
Barbara J. Carter
Registration No. 52,703
Attorney for Applicant

BROMBERG & SUNSTEIN LLP
125 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02110-1618
Tel: (617) 443-9292
Fax: (617) 443-0004

02486/00109 618752.2